

# Principense Creole

**Principense Creole** is a minority Portuguese-based creole language spoken in a community of some four thousand people in São Tomé and Príncipe, specifically on the island of Príncipe. It is also called by its native speakers as *lunguyê* creole ("creole of the island"). There are two Portuguese-based creoles on the island of São Tomé, Angolar Creole and Forro Creole, according to a 1989 study.<sup>[4]</sup> Today, younger generations of São Toméans are not likely to speak Principense, which has led to its fast decline and moribund status.<sup>[5]</sup> It is mostly spoken by the elderly (the Ethnologue entry lists 200 native speakers in total), while most of the island's community speaks noncreolized Portuguese; some also speak another, closely related creole language, Forro Creole.

Principense Creole presents many similarities with the Forro Creole on São Tomé and may be regarded as a Forro dialect. Like Forro, it is a creole language based on Portuguese with substrates of Bantu and Kwa.

## References

1.

Principense Creole ([https://www.ethnologue.com/14/show\\_language/PRE](https://www.ethnologue.com/14/show_language/PRE)) at *Ethnologue* (14th ed., 2000).

2.

Principense Creole (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/pre/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

3.

Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Principense" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/prin1242>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

4.

Holm, John A. (1989). *Pidgins and Creoles: Reference Survey* (<https://archive.org/details/pidginscreoles00holm>). Cambridge: Cambridge UP. p. 277. ISBN 978-0-521-35940-5.

5.

Estudo do Léxico do São-Tomense com Dicionário, Carlos Fontes - Universidade de Coimbra. ([http://repositorio.ul.pt/bitstream/10451/18319/1/ulfl183078\\_tm.pdf](http://repositorio.ul.pt/bitstream/10451/18319/1/ulfl183078_tm.pdf))

Principense Creole	
<i>lunguyê</i>	
<b>Native to</b>	São Tomé and Príncipe
<b>Ethnicity</b>	1,560 (1999) <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Native speakers</b>	200 (1999) <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Language family</b>	Portuguese-based creole <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lower Guinea<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Principense Creole</b></li></ul></li></ul>
Language codes	
<b>ISO 639-3</b>	pre
<b>Glottolog</b>	prin1242 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/prin1242">http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/prin1242</a> ) <sup>[3]</sup>
<b>Linguasphere</b>	51-AAC-acb
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## External links

- APiCS Online - Survey chapter: Principense (<https://apics-online.info/surveys/37>)

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